



U.S. Department of Justice

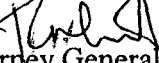
Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

November 21, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM: Robert Raben 
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Weekly Report for November 20, 2000 - November 24, 2000

The House and the Senate are in recess. The House returns on December 4; the Senate returns on December 5.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Wen Ho Lee: Draft responses to questions for the record from Senator Leahy, in follow up of the September 26 and 27 hearings, are being prepared by the Criminal Division. A draft response to the Intelligence Committees and the Senate Judiciary Committee on conditions of confinement is being finalized. Responses to document requests for sealed records and deliberative materials are being deferred until after conclusion of the debrief; Committee staff have been informed of this. On November 8, we provided to the Committees copies of transcripts for the open portions of the August detention hearings and some docket items that may have been omitted inadvertently from earlier document productions. The Department of Energy is separately responding to document requests from the Senate Judiciary Committee and coordinating document production with the Department. Senator Specter's staff have suggested there may be additional hearings in November and December but nothing firm has been announced. (Walter)

Deutch Investigation: The Senate Intelligence Committee sent over its draft report on John Deutch and requested that the Department inform them of classified or law enforcement sensitive information that it may contain before the Committee makes the report public. The Criminal Division has reviewed the report; we have alerted the Committee as to a few factual errors they may wish to correct and will work with them to do so. (Walter)

Telecom: The DeWine/Kohl telecom merger bill [S. 467], which the Department and FBI oppose because it does not provide adequate protections for law enforcement and national security concerns, is among the measures that could be attached to an appropriations or omnibus bill. OMB and appropriations staff have been alerted to the Department's objections and we are monitoring the bill's status. (Walter)

Leak prosecutions: In the wake of the President's veto of the Intelligence Authorization bill, we are monitoring how the Hill will respond. Senator Shelby's staff has requested Department assistance in redrafting the leak provision to narrow it; media and civil liberties groups have

asked for a meeting with us to discuss their concerns and insistence on public hearings before further legislation is considered. Senator Specter's staff indicate he may try to attach the FISA-related parts of the bill to an appropriations or omnibus package before sine die adjournment. The House stripped the leak provision out of the bill and passed the remaining provisions by voice vote. (Walter)

Police Integrity Efforts: On November 22, both you and the Deputy Attorney General will be meeting with representatives of civil rights groups to report on the Department's efforts in strengthening police community relations. OLA will participate in that meeting. (Scott-Finan)